



Vol. 23, #10

Thursday • May 20, 1999

50¢

## Constitutional Amendment Approved by Menominee Tribal Members

### *Pow Wow honors civil war veterans*

By Yvonne M. Kaquatosh, MNN Editor and The Associated Press

Menominee Tribal members came out in full force – the second time, to vote in a special secretarial election to surrender some immunity against lawsuits as a step toward financing an off-reservation Casino in Kenosha, Wisconsin.

The vote on Tuesday, May 11 to amend the tribal constitution was 788-205, according to Tom Buckanaga of the Minneapolis office of the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs.

A similar proposal was rejected in January 387-335. The version approved last week provides a

**Continued on page 2**  
please see AMENDMENT

### Numerous summer activities planned for Menominee youth

Soon the 1998-99 school year will come to an end which means Menominee youth will be off for the summer. In an effort to inform parents of a variety of summer activities being offered throughout the summer, a special pull-out section is included in this issue of *Menominee Nation News* in cooperation with a variety of programs who worked with us to get the information out to the community.

A sign-up/registration day will be held on Wednesday, May 26 from 5-7 p.m. at both the Keshen Park and the Veterans Park in Neopit. Stop by to register your child for summer activities.



MNN photo/M. Wilber

The 10th Annual Menominee Veterans Traditional Pow Wow honored Company K, an all-Menominee Civil War regiment. Above, veterans take part in the Veterans Honor Song. Story on page 10

## Menominee Tribal Enterprise says Federal Investigation underway

**NEOPIT, WI**—Menominee Tribal Enterprises (MTE) announced today that a Federal Bureau of

Investigation (FBI) and a Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) investigation is now underway on the

Menominee Reservation, looking into reports of alleged illegal activities by several logging contractors and others involved in the logging operation.

MTE Board Chairman Myron (Pat) Grignon said the investi-

gation request was made by the MTE Board of Directors after it received reports that some loggers – Indian as well as non-Indian – had been threatened with personal violence and property

**Continued on pg. 2**  
please see MTE

## Kansas, Loverboy headline 1st Annual Rock MusicFest at Menominee Casino

**KESHENA, WI** – The Menominee Casino-Bingo-Hotel announced today that it has expanded its summer entertainment line up to include a Rock MusicFest, which will be held Saturday, June 5, on the casino grounds. The day-long, outdoor music event will feature nationally known acts, such as Survivor, the Fabulous Thunderbirds, Kansas, and Loverboy. Tickets are \$10 in advance, \$15 at the door.

"We're very excited to offer an additional event of rock performers, who are sure to draw an audience of all ages from Northeastern and Central Wisconsin," said Al Stachura, marketing director for the

Menominee Casino-Bingo-Hotel. "Based on last summer's success of MusicFest, we've decided to expand this year's entertainment and organize two MusicFests this year – one featuring popular country performers and this one featuring rock varieties."

Tickets are available at all Ticker\*Star locations through the Menominee Casino-Bingo-Hotel, or by calling at 920-494-3401. For further information on the Menominee Casino-Bingo-Hotel's Rock MusicFest, contact Al Stachura at (800) 343-7778 or fax 715-799-1313.

The Menominee Casino-Bingo-Hotel is located in Keshena, five miles north of Shawano on Hwy. 47/55.

Bulk Rate  
U.S. Postage  
Paid  
Keshena, WI  
Permit  
No. 16

MENOMINEE NATION NEWS  
P.O. BOX 910  
KESHENA, WI 54135-0910  
CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

## Inside this issue . . .

- 3 Reader's Respond
- 4 Health Focus
- 5-11 Community Highlights
- 12 Entertainment

### SPECIAL SUMMER YOUTH PULL-OUT SECTION!

- 15-17 MIHS Graduates
- 18 Happy Ads
- 21 Memorials
- 22 Sports
- 23-28 Education
- 29 Senior Focus
- 30 MISD Board Minutes
- 31 Tobacco
- 32 Mining Page

## AMENDMENT:

different method of having courts settle disputes.

Tribal officials have tried since last year to reach an agreement with Kenosha for opening a casino beside the Dairyland Parimutuel race track. A limited waiver of the tribe's sovereign immunity rights was necessary for lenders to back a \$200 million bond, said Menominee Nation Chairman Apesanahkwat. The tribal chairman plans to meet with Kenosha city and county officials within two weeks to get the stalled casino project back on track.

"Hopefully, the elected leadership in Kenosha will honor our agreement and we can move forward," he said. "We need to get this done."

Joseph Madrigrano Jr., lead Kenosha investor of NII-JII Entertainment, L.L.C, and one of the tribe's attorneys for the Dairyland project, said the latest vote was another obstacle cleared. "The tribal leaders learned from their mistake the last time and left no stone unturned," Madrigrano said. "Voters were armed with all of the information they needed. Last time (January vote), there was a misconception that an immunity waiver applied to the reservation as well as the casino property in Kenosha. It was just a matter of getting the word out."

Tribal members were required to register to vote in the special secretarial election.

## MTE:

damage. "The MTE Board will not tolerate any intimidation of its employees or contractors," said Grignon. "We will maintain law and order in our forests, we will make sure our bidding is a clean process, and we will actively pursue legal action against those who violate the law - be they Indian or non-Indian." The MTE Board of Directors has declined to name those being investigated or state when the investigation is expected to be finished.

The investigation is timely because bidding is currently underway for the summer harvest, with the bid opening to be held at 9:00 a.m. May 21, 1999 at the Menominee Forestry Center.

"With all this activity going on," said MTE President Lawrence Waukau, "you can imagine there are many rumors circulating in the community. That is why it's important for people to know that it was MTE which requested this investigation, and that the investigation centers on a few of our loggers. I want to reassure people that MTE is continuing to conduct its forestry operation under the very strictest of guidelines and overview of the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Secretary of the Interior."

The Menominee Trust and Management Agreement, and the Forest Management Plan, established cooperatively with the BIA, Department of Interior and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, sets the current legal basis for the sustained yield forest management practices in use on the Menominee Reservation.

The management goal of the Menominee Tribe is to maximize the quantity and quality of sawtimber grown under sustained-yield management principles, while maintaining the diversity of native species. This policy promotes a timber harvesting system which removes timber according to vitality and strength, rather than marketable size alone.

If the sustained yield management required by statute is not operated appropriately, the Secretary of the Interior can take action to ensure compliance. "Not only do we operate according to the Menominee Trust and Management Agreement and the Forest Management Plan," said Waukau, "our operation is also accountable to the MTE Board of Directors, who are elected by the Menominee people." An independent audit of the operation is also conducted on a yearly basis.

"The bottom line to all this," added Grignon, "is that MTE will continue to operate according to plan and it will not tolerate those who attempt to disrupt any portion of our operation."